## GEN. BABCOCK'S REPORT

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

WORK OF THE YEAR JUST PASSED

RESERVATIONS, PARKS, LAWNS AND LAKES Bridges Leading into Washington

FOUNTAINS, FENCES, TREES, BIRDS

THE WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT

DISTRIBUTION OF POTOMAC WATER HIGH-SERVICE RESERVOIR IN GEORGETOWN

ENORMOUS SUPPLY PER CAPITA

One Hundred and Sixty-five Gallons to Each

NECESSITY FOR A LESS WASTEFUL USE

Estimate of Appropriations for Next Year

Financial Statement for the Past Year

), E. Babcock, Engineer in Charge of Public lings and Grounds and of the Washington eresting to every class of our people and relating to every portion of the District, that we devote to a sufficient space to give the report entire:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the fol lowing report of the operations on the works un-der my charge during the fiscal year ending

Care and Improvement of the Public Grounds GROUNDS SOUTH OF THE EXECUTIVE MANSION.

The work of improving these grounds has been nd properly dumped, thus completing the gradards of roll and refuse material of all sorts have en received and deposited in the lower portion the grounds, thus aiding the filling materially d without expense, except the necessary force

ave, in addition to its other work, kept the gut

The work of improving these grounds for the car commenced in July, consisting at first in rading and filling those portions which were hen below or above the established grade. The rood soil was first removed and placed in piles in arious parts of the grounds, to be used for the

this was done a branch was extended to the west side of the roadway, to drain the low grounds on that side.

The extension of Virginia avenue from Seventeenth street through the marght to the high land in these grounds, which was referred to in my last annual report as being done by the District Commissioners, was completed, and in accordance with the intention therein sated, the work of creating a lake out of that portion lying north of it, and extending to Bistreet, was commenced and partly inlighed. Within the lake thus formed there is an island containing an area of 4,45 square feet, on which there were a number of large trees. Some of the more unsightly ones were cut down, and the others trimmed into proper shape, and a few young cross set out. This island was outlined and raised some two feet to a proper grade, the excavations from the marsh being used for that purpose. The soil thus thrown up, being unfit for grass, was sown with corn to partially exhaust it, and render it suitable for lawn grass.

In order to excavate the soil to form the bottom of the new lake, as much water as could be was drawn off through the sewer above mentioned. The water in the portion of the bed of the old canal lying below the line of the outlet was removed by a steam pump. The steam pump was in use about three weeks.

The bottom of the marsh being too wet to allow carte being driven over it, the earth was thrown up into ridges, and enough of it to complete the grade of the island was taken out in wheel-barrows. The remainder was carted out in the winter, when the ground was frozen, and placed in piles in the White lot to be used in forming a compete heap.

In February the excavation was completed, as the allow care the sign of the excavation was completed, as the above mention of the sign of the sign of the sign of the excavation was completed, as the above mention of the sign of the sign of the sign of the sign of the excavation was completed, as the substruction was the sign of the sign of the sign of the sign of the sign o

patch they write its to be used in forming a complete heap.

In February the excavation was completed, as for as the appropriation would allow. The water was turned on, thus transforming the unsightly marsh into a sheet of clear water over an area of four acres and 7.116 feet. The banks of this lake and of the island should be protected in a manner similar to the lake on the opposite side of the roadway. A sufficient sum for this purpose was included in the estimates for the coming fiscal water.

xeavated was 13,500. The pipes excavated was 13,000.

The pipes supplying the green-houses with water having been uncovered while grading were lowered to a proper depth.

A number of young trees, 16,000, in the nursery, grown from seed and cuttings, were taken up, tops and roots properly trimmed, and replaced in nursery rows. These young trees comprise many varieties, are hardy, and will, in a few years, supply all the trees that may be needed for the public grounds.

ORZEN HOUSES.

A small force was employed in the green houses, caring for the plants stored there for the winter, and propagating plants, flowers and trees for use on the public grounds during the summer season and for distribution to members of Congress and others. Sixty-tive thousand were distributed, being packed and sent by express or otherwise, as the members wished. During the summer an extension was made to one of the green houses; an additional boiler was purchased, and the necessary extension of the pipes made; the beating apparatus in the other houses received the necessary repairs; none of the plants were damaged by frost during the winter.

A cobblesione gutter was laid along the east side of the green houses, and connected with the gutter of the main roadway in front, to carry of the surface water during rains.

Thirty-four loads of moss were collected in the fall, preparatory to packing plants for distribution in the spring; 15 straw mats were made by the gardeners for protection of the cold frames at the green houses; the rose beds covered with a coating of leaf mould, and the less hardy plants were further protected by thatching them with evergreen boughs.

During a severe wind storm on the night of March 26, the larger green house in the nursery was unroofed and much of the glass broken. This house contained some of the choicest plants. Temporary protection with blankets, sacks, ac., to cover them was given, and they were removed and stored in the main building and other houses until the necessary repairs were made, which required but a few days. The plants were replaced and, with a few exceptions, suffered but little, a few only being destroyed.

SMITHSONIAN GROUNDES.

SMITHSONIAN GROUNDS.

placed and, with a few exceptions, suffered but little, a few only being destroyed.

SENTESONIAN GROUNDS.

The work of graveling the new-made roads in these grounds was completed early in the fiscal year. They were rolled repeatedly, to make them compact and smooth. The roads north of the building were kept free from weeds, and the surface gutter was repaired in places where necessary. In the immediate front of the building, and in the centre of the roadway, a sower lodge, which was covered with boards and considered unsafe, was uncovered, and the boards, which had become rotten, removed. It was re-covered with stone, and now is in a perfectly safe condition.

Several water lodges, to collect the surface drainage, were built and connected with the sower pipe. Two thousand and thirteen feet of water-pipe for irrigation were laid in the northern portion of the grounds. Five hundred and thirteen evergreens and deciduous trees were set out in these grounds. The greater portion of them were placed in the newly-graded ground along B street north; those requiring it were protected from damage from winds by being carefully fastened to stakes driven into the ground.

From various causes some three hundred of the stakes to which the trees were attached that were set out in the fall were broken. These were replaced, and the trees fastened to them. The evergreens were carefully examined, and all the cuterplilars removed.

A number of popular trees (aspens) were headed back, and some unishtily and decayed one, which were crowding and injuring valuable trees, were removed. Eleven large trees—ash, elim and maple—located along B street, where the grade had not been completed, were transplanted during the winter to more desirable locations. They were transplanted with large balls of frozen earth and are now doing well.

The iron gates and stone pillars at the Tenthstreet entrance, on north B street, where the grade had not been completed, were transplanted to hose passing through these grounds in going to and from this market.

One carrisgeway and several footwalks, containing some 7.216 square yards, were excavated and graveled. The earth taken from them was used in filling the portions near the Baltimore and Potome railroad depot which were below the established grade. The roadway and walks were carefully rolled.

One of the marble fountain-bowls taken from the West Capitol grounds was piaced in these grounds, at the intersection of the two carriage-ways, and supplied with the necessary water and drain pipes and jet. The smaller fountain-bowl, near Seventh street, being out of ropair, was removed. The grounds were thoroughly lighted: twenty-seven lamp-posts and lanterns were set, the necessary gas-mains were laid and connections made, requiring in all 2,634 feet, 2,230 of one-inch, and 710 feet of three-quater-inch gas pipe.

The main sewer-pipe leading through these

of one-inch, and 170 feet of three-quater-inch gas pipe.

The main sewer-pipe leading through these grounds becoming choked in several places, was taken up, cleaned and otherwise repaired. A row of decisious trees was planted along main roadway. One hundred and ninety other trees of various varieties were planted throughout the ground. Three large linden trees were transpianted during the winter; they were removed when the ground was frozen, which prevented the disturbance of the earth about the roots.

Several paths made by pedestrians in crossing this square and not following the walks, were plowed up, harrowed and sowed with grass-seed. RESERVATIONS BETWEEN THIRD AND SIXTE

Such stones as worked to the surface along the roads through the grounds were picked up and removed from time to time, thus keeping the roadway in good condition for driving.

Hauling dirt over the main roadway for grading Virginia avenue rendered the roadway very dusty. To prevent this, and to preserve the roadway, a sprinkling wagon was employed during the dry weather to wet the road from Fourieenth street to Virginia avenue.

LAKE

street to Virginia avenue.

LARE.

The work of grading the grounds around the lake having been completed, the final outline of the same was completed; the banks graded and soulded. To protect the banks from the wash of the water, a line of cobble-stone paving was inid around it to the depth of four feet, the stone used being those picked upduring the grading of these grounds and saved for this purpose. The lower line of the paving was protected by spreading gravel along it, the gravel extending into the lake some four teet. Excavations over a portion of the bettom of the lake were made to deepen, the water and to destroy the water plants which grow in places.

Further excavations should be made for these purposes; the lake should have a depth of not less than four feet of water, to prevent the growth of water plants and to maintain a clear water surface. The lake as finished contains 5 acres and 1,55 square teet. To pretect the sodding and banks around this lake from the wash of the water from the high grounds south of it during heavy rains, a couble-stone gutter was laid along each side of the roadway west of it. These gutters were led into the outlet sower built for the purpose of draining the lake when necessary. This protected the banks completely.

During the winter the lake was frozen over for a few days, during which large numbers of penjel courjed it in skating and sliding. To enable the people to reach the lee without damaging the newly-sodded banks, six sets of wooden steps were placed at intervals around the shore. These steps were generally used by the people, and no serious harm was done to the banks.

The masoury of the conduit forming the outlet from the lakes having settled in the new made ground, a portion of it had to be rebuilt. When this was done a branch was extended to the west side of the readway, to drain the low grounds on that side.

The embankment east of the green-houses, on the line of the prolongation of Fifteenth street, was cutdown to a grade that would harmonize with the pursery and Monument grounds. The work was done by contract, and the earth was used in grading the Monument grounds in the vicinity of the nursery; the total number of cubic yards thus exeaunted was 12,300

ARMORY SQUARE.

The grading of these grounds was completed with the soil from the old Agricultural garden, which would otherwise, being much below grade, have been covered with the filling of that ground. The necessary foctwalks were then marked out, excavated, graded and filled with gravel and rolled to a compact, smooth surface. These walks contain 3,130 square yards. The driveway was raised to proper grade and regraveled. It contains 2,200 square yards. The two sewer-traps on either side of ghis driveway were raised to proper grade, and from covers put on them. These grounds were thoroughly sub-drained; 8,086 feet

of two-inch tile, and 243 feet of six-inch sewer-pipe being used for that purpose.

The C-inch tile was laid in trenches 3 feet deep and 20 feet apart, as these grounds were newly made and composed mostly of clay. It was decined necessary to thus subdrain them in order to secure the life and growth of the trees to be planted The necessary water and gas pipes were laid to irrigate and light them, 1,844 feet of water and 346 feet of gas pipe of various sizes being re-quired.

and 946 feet of gas pipe of various sizes being required.

Six lamp posts were set and connection made with gas pipes; two of the posts were those combining drinking fountain and lamp-post. These posts were set on brick foundation, and provided with meessary water pipes and drainage; to the water pipes plugs were attached at convenient distances, so that the troes and grass can be irrigated by the use of a short length of hose. The edges of the walks were sodded, and the other portions of the grounds sown with blue grass seed, which has grown well.

Two large evergreens growing in the old Agricultural grounds, which would have been killed by the filling being placed there, were transplanted, adding much to the appearance of the grounds.

by the filling being placed there, were transplanged, adding much to the appearance of the grounds.

The line of aspens and soft maples on Maine avenue were headed back and thoroughly trimmed. This improves their appearance and preventable flustring the summer months.

The portion of the grounds between Four-and-a half and Sixth streets, along Maine avenue, were grades, solied and sowed with grass seed. Walks were laid out, excavated, filled with gravel and rolled. They contain 1.110 square yards.

The main readway was regraveled, and contains 2.734 square yards. The edges of the walks were sodded, and a line of sod laid along the edge of the grounds on Maine avenue.

The embankment along Sixth street and on each side of the roadway that enters these grounds from Sixth street was graded, solled and sodded, giving it a finished appearance. The grounds north of the main roadway and extending to Missouri avenue, including that portion known as the old Agricultural garden, were also graded, the finishing grade being composed of good soil to the depth of one foot. The walks and roads were staked out and exavated, The carth from them was used in completing the first or rough grade. These roadways and walks are now in readiness for gravel. The appropriation for this purpose being exhausted, the work was suspended at this point. Eight hundred and fitty-nine evergreens, deciduous trees, shrubs, &c., were set out in the grounds between Third and Sixth streets, those requiring it being firmly secured. Iron posts and chains of the park pattern were placed along Missouri and Maineavenues from Four-and-a-half to Sixth street, requiring 239 posts and 3,281 pounds of chain.

A wooden drain was laid from these grounds to the James creek sewer, for the purpose of drain-ing the low portion in which a pond of water col-lects after rains. This was done to prevent the

lects after rains. This was done to prevent the formation there of a pool of stagmant water, so injurious to the health of these living in the immediate vicinity.

A triangular reservation on Maryland avenue and First street east was enclosed with an iron post and chain fence, walks laid out, evenuated, graded and graveled, and raked to a smooth surface.

A grand pedestal, authorized by act of Congress approved June 23, 1874, was designed under direction of this office, contracted for with the Bodweil Granite Company, and erected to receive a bronze group, in commemoration of the emancipation of the slaves by President Lincoln. In this group President Lincoln is represented in the act of breaking the chains from a slave.

This group was executed by an American artist, Mr. Thomas Bail. This group was donated by the colored citizens of the United States, the funds for procuring it having been donated in small amounts, the first one being for the sum of \$5 from an old colored woman named Charlotte Scott, who forwarded that amount to the Western Sanitary Commission, of St. Louis, upon her hearing of the proclamation of emancipation, with the request that the same might be used in procuring a statue of President Lincoln. The commission accepted the trust, and from such a small beginning the fund increased to some \$18,000, with which the group was purchased. At the request of the commission it was received by this office and placed in position. It arrived in perfect order, was unpacked and placed on the pedestal April 13 and unveiled April 14, (the aniversary of the assassination of President Lincoln.) in the presence of the President of the Supreme Court, Congress and many other citizens. As a work of art this group is pronounced United States, members of his Cabinet and of the Supreme Court, Congress and many other citizens. As a work of art this group is pronounced as one of the finest in the city, and is a great ornament and attraction to this square.

The space around the pedestal was graveled, and two walks were opened and graveled from East Capitol street to the main walk leading to the pedestal. Two park lamp-posts were placed to light these walks.

to light these walks.

JUDICIARY SQUARE.

The walks and roadways where washed during the winter rains were repaired. The edges in many places were resodded. In this square, in particular, the people had made paths in various directions, irrespective of the walks provided. These were plowed up, harrowed and sowed with grass seed. Harriers were placed in various positions to prevent this destruction of the grass along the line of the walks and on the lawns. The Metropolitan police have rendered material assistance in protecting the public property in the public reservations.

To prevent the destruction of the walks by the water from the roof of the City Hall building, the water from the roof of the City Hall building, the water from the roof of the City Hall building, the water from the capacity to carry off the surface drainage.

This gutter was connected with the sewer-trap at the corner of E street. Two hundred and seventeen trees were planted to complete the former planting. A few of the more tender evergreens were thatched with plue boughs to protect them during the winter.

The public parks in this city, like those in all other cities, become, in some localities, the resort of a class of people who drive away the better people who wish to occupy the seats and walks. It is a difficult thing to discriminate as to who shall occupy the seats, yet with the efficient support of the Metropolitan police, now so freely given, it is believed that their presence will not drive away any one, especially the nurses in charge of small children. The appropriation for this square authorizes the building of a watchman's lodge. This lodge is in course of construction, and will be completed early in July. This lodge will contain a watchman's room, tool-house and two water-closets—one for either sex. It is believed the plan adopted will secure perfect cleanliness and ventilation, and supply a much-needed want in this square. In connection with the watchman's room there will be provided a water-cooler containing a large coil of

ice sufficient cool water for drinking purposes will be secured.

In accordance with an act approved June 22, 1874. (United States Statutes, volume 18, page 225, the old jail building in this square was advertised for rate. Refore the time of sale arrived, and without consulting this office, the Commissioners of the District secured the passage of a joint resolution of Congress auspending the sale and authorizing the use of the building for the purpose of a fibridge and paying the sale and authorizing the use of the building for the purpose of a fibridge and the unsightly structure still remains, as well as the pile of soil saved for the improvement of that portion of the square. The expenses of advertisement were paid out of the appropriation for the improvement of the square.

FRANKLIN SQUARE.

FRANKLIN SQUARE.

A new sewer was laid from watchman's lodge to main sewer on I street, the pipe formerly laid being too small. The fountain bowl expanded in one place, causing a leak, which was premptly repaired.

ing too small. The fountain bowl expanded in one pince, causing a leak, which was promptly repaired.

Three eagles, one a fine "bald-headed" specimen, presented to this office by Mr. Freach, Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, were placed in the cage in this square and are doing well.

This square, being the resort of the large number of children from the Franklin school building, requires more than ordinary attention and care to keep the walks and sod in good condition. But little damage has been done to shrubbery in this square. The grass, especially along the sides of the walks, has to be protected, which has been done successfully by driving small stakes into the ground, leaving about two inches projecting, to hit the feet of those who are willing to destroy the sod and the symmetry of the walks. The ends of these stakes are painted green to prevent an unsightly appearance.

I take this occasion to renew the recommendation that sufficient appropriation should be asked of Congress to establish within the city a National Zoological Garden, wherein all the animals of the country can be collected, and such other varieties as deemed best. It is not believed that this will be very expensive, as a greater portion can be secured through the army and navy, the Smithsonian Institute and officers of the Government on their regular duties. An estimate of \$25,000 is included for this purpose.

RESERVATION OHIO AVENUE AND TWELPTH

This reservation, which is occupied temporarily by the Bethel chapel, was cleared of rubbish, stone and other material which had been deposited there, and enclosed with a light wooden fence of the street park pattern. It was graded and solied to a suitable depth for future planting.

LAPAYETTE SQUARE.

This square has been kept in good condition. The grass was cut whenever needed; the walks inside the park and the sidewalks around it were swept as often as required to keep it in a perfectly cleanly condition; the trees and shrubbery were properly cared for; a large quantity of bedding plants of various kinds were planted in the flower beds and borders along the walks; the edges of the walks in some places were protected by small stakes driven into the grass; a pair of prairig dogs, (Spermophius indicitionus,) prosented to the office, were placed in the square, a proper wire enclosure having been constructed. They are doing well.

PEDESTAL FOR M'PHERSON STATUE.

PEDESTAL FOR M'PHERSON STATUE. PEDESTAL FOR M'PHERSON STATUE.

In accordance with the act of Congress approved March 3, 1875, providing for a pedestal for an equestrian statue of General James B. McPherson, plans and specifications were prepared and bids for doing the work under them solicited from several grantic companies throughout the country. The award was made to the Westham Granite Company, of Richmond, Virginia, the granite being of the same quality as is used in the construction of the building for the State, War and Navy Departments.

The company has completed the cutting of all the stone for the pedestal, and laid the foundation for the same. The pedestal will be complete and ready for the statue by the 15th of July. The asphalt roadway through the square has been taken up, and the spaces filled with soil to a proper grade and sodded, the curb along I and K streets laid, and a brick sidewalk laid.

THIRTEENTH AND P-STREET CIRCLE.

the walks through the grounds. The grass, though light, was cut when required. The fountain was kept in good condition; a few trees and shrubs were added to those already planted. MOUNT VERNON PLACE.

No work other than care of grass and trees was done in this receivation. Most of the trees and shrubbery made a good growth.

shrubbery made a good growth.

FOUNTAINS.

The fountain bowls in the various reservations were repaired from time to time, as needed, and all kept in good order, and the water flowing as late in the season as the weather would permit. The water was then turned off, the jets removed and stored in tool-house, the bowls were filled with leaves and the rims or copings thatched with evergreens, to protect them from damage by frost. In the spring the leaves were removed, and the water again turned on. But little damage was done to the masonry forming the bowls. Several jets of a new pattern were purchased for the fountains.

PAINTING FENCES.

the fountains.

FAINTING FENCES.

The iron fences inclosing the following-named Reservation, the lamp-posts and-drinking-fountains within them and the lamp-posts surrounding the same all received two coats of paint, viz: Lafayette square, Franklin square, Washington circle, triangular reservation corner of Seventh street and Pennsylvania avenue, triangular reservation corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Thirteenth street, triangular reservation corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Twentest street, triangular reservation corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Twentest street, triangular reservation corner of New York avenue and Twentest street, triangular reservation corner of New York avenue and Twentest street, triangular reservation corner of Massachusetts avenue and Sixth street, Pourteenth street circle and the fences surrounding the Executive Mansion.

The reservations enclosed with post and chain were also painted, as follows, namely, triangular reservation corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Twenty-first street, triangular reservation corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Eighteenth street, triangular reservation corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Thirteenth street, triangular reservation corner of Massachusetts avenue and Thirteenth street, triangular reservation corner of Massachusetts avenue and Tenth street, triangular reservation corner of Massachusetts avenue and Tenth street, triangular reservation of Sixth streets, the Smithsonian grounds along B street south, Rawlins square, (Green Weiberon square, (Green yellow) Scott square, (Green yellow) Scott square, Lincoln square, intertungular reservations on Pennsylvania avenue, eart of the Capitol, and the circle Thirteenth and P streets.

Three coats of paint were put on the post and chain around this circle, as they had not been painted before.

During the very heated term in July a small force of men was employed watering the young trees that had been set out the previous spring. In October the landscape gardener visited Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York and purchased from nurserymen, at wholesale prices, a large number of trees of different varieties for the public grounds. They arrived in good order and were placed temporarily in the nursery grounds.

During the planting season of the fall and spring trees were set out in the public grounds as follows: Twenty-four in reservation on Massachusetts avenue, between Tenth and Twelfth streets; 24 in circle at Thirteenth and P streets, 981 in Monument grounds, 559 in reservation between Third and Sixth streets, 190 in Armory square, 317 in Judiciary square, 16 in Mount Vernon Place, 8 in reservation at New York avenue and Tenth street, 4 in McPherson square, 25 in Rawlins square, 161 in Lincoln square, 25 in Rawlins square, 161 in Lincoln square, 25 in Rawlins 103 feet deep, in which half a cartload of good soil was placed. The soil was carefully filled in around the roots, but a small percentage of the trees planted have died.

Four of the large trees on Pennsylvania avouce, between Fifteenth and Seventeesth streets, south side, having died, were removed and tine specimens of elms, taken from the White Lot, were planted in their place.

The space around these and other trees along

of elms, taken from the White Lot, were planted in their place.

The space around these and other trees along this side of Pennsylvania avenue, from Fifteenth to Seventeenth street, were resolded, having been killed by pedestrians. In addition a few trees were setout in Stanton Place and reservation opposite Providence Hospital. All the trees in the public grounds were properly trimmed, a large number of them having become affected with borers, (a very destructive grub.) scale and mealy bug, were carefully inspected, the deposit removed as far as possible, after which the trees were washed with a preparation composed of lime, sulphur and carbolic acid, for the purpose of destroying any larve of these insects that might still remain. The trees mostly affected by those bugs are the following: Cherries, peaches,

apples, magnolias and white pines.

The flower beds and borders in Franklin and
Lafayette squares, the Fourteenth-street circle
and the ground around the Scott statue were
properly filled with a choice selection of budding
plants, and the circle in Farragut square was
filled with a tail ornamental plant, (Canna
Indica.) (ndica.)
All of these plants and flowers are doing well.

All of these plants and flowers are doing well.

MISCELLANGOUS.

A quantity of old material that had been collecting for several years, consisting of pickets, posts, cast and wrought fron, &c., was soid at anction August 30. (The sale was advertised to take place on the 24th, but was postponed until the 30th on account of rain.) A detailed account of sales amounting to \$148.00 was received from the auction September 11, together with the money, which was covered into the Treasury of the United States September 13, in accordance with law. The sum of \$32.40 received from sales of old fron, authorized by the chief of engineers to be sold at private sale, was covered into the Treasury January 22, 1876.

SETTRES.

To insure uniformity of pattern the seats were removed from Lafayette and Franklin squares and new ones put in their places. A number of those broken during the season were repaired at the shop.

The snow and ice was promptly removed from the walks in front of the reservations under charge of the office.

BIRDS, BIRD BOXES, ETC.

The sparrows increased very rapidly during the year. There being but little snow during the winter they required but little feed. Twelve boxes lined with zinc were made and placed in the public grounds. These are daily filled with firsh water, thus furnishing a plentiful supply of water for the sparrows and other birds. Three hundred and hity bird boxes for the sparrows were manufactured at the carpenter shop and securely fixed on the trees in the various grounds.

curely fixed on the trees in the various grounds.

IEON VASES.

Fourteen iron vases were placed in the public grounds, brick foundations being first prepared for them. They were distributed as follows; 2 in reservation, Pennsylvania avenue, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth streets; 2 in Fourteenth-street circle; 4 in reservation, Massachusetts avenue, between Tenth and Twelfth streets; 2 in Rawlins square; 4 in Thirteenth-street circle. They were filled with Sowering plants during the summer and hardy decorative plants during the winter. They add a very pleasing feature to the reservations named.

A number of turned cedar posts were set in the centre of the walks where they intersect the main roadways in the Smithsonian and Monument grounds and in Judiciary square, to prevent people irom driving on the footwalks.

MANURE.

Pie from driving on the footwalks.

MANURE.

The street sweepings, that were purchased and stored in the White lot, were used in part to top-dress the grass in various reservations. In addition, 20 tons of ammoniated poudrette, a fertilizer highly recommended, was spread on the Executive Mansion grounds, Franklin, Farragut and Judiciary squares, Mount Vernon place, and over portions of the Monument grounds, producing a good crop of grass. Several thousand loads of manure were collected from stables within the city and deposited in the monument grounds for future use in the grounds.

ANACOSTIA BRIDGE

ANACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ANACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ANACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ADACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ADACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ADACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ADACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ADACOSTIA BRIDGE.

ADACOSTIA BRIDGE.

In Fobruary application was made to me by the Anacostia and Fotomac River Railroad Company for permission to lay rails on the floor of this bridge. I declined to grant them permission. An application was then made by their attorney to the honorable Secretary of War. This application was referred to me by the chief of engineers for report, and in reply the following answer was sent:

OFFICE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FODTUARY 28, 1875.

GENERAL: I have the honor te acknowledge the

OFFICE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, WASHINGTON, D. C., February 28, 1875.

GEMERAL: I have the honor te acknowiedge the receipt of your communication of the left inst., inclosing a letter from Wm. Birney, esq., attorney for the Anacostia and Potomac Hiver Railroad Company, claiming the right of that company to lay its rails across the Anacostia bridge. In your communication my attention is invited to the indorsement on Mr. Birney's letter by the honorable Secretary of War, calling for the facts in the case and a description of the bridge, and I am requested to state what restrictions should, in my judgment, be imposed upon the railroad company in the exercise of the franchise granted by Congress. In reply I respectfully submit the following:

The act of Congress making an appropriation for the construction of a bridge across the Anacostia river a "substantial iron and masourly bridge and causeway," at a cost not to exceed the sum of \$146,000. Under the provisions of this act the present bridge was constructed, and it was opened to public travel on the 26th of last June.

The bridge as constructed consists of 12 spans of 102 lect each, and one draw span of 36 feet. There are also 440 feet of causeway, making a total length of bridge and causeway, making a total length of the roadway is 20 feet. and there are two sidewalks, each 5 feet wide, but being placed on the outside of the bridge through out of the roadway, the bridge should be loaded throughout its entire length with a weight of one bundred pounds for each and every square foct of its surface, the bridge would be strained to about one fifth of its utilimate strength.

Some time sites the pridge of the prince with the surface of the bridge would be strained to about one fifth of its utilimate strength.

officers of the railroad company claimed the right to lay their rails across it, by virtue of an act of Congress entitled "An act giving the approval and sanction of Congress to the route and termini of the Anacostia and Potomac River Railroad Company." Section three of this act is as fol-lows:

Company." Section three or this act is as in-lows:
"That whenever the present Navy-yard bridge shall be replaced by a structure suitable for the passage of a street railroad, the company shall have the right to cross over the same to Union-town, under such restrictions and regulations as Congress may prescribe," &c.
In this act it is not stated whether there shall he one or two tracks laid across the bridge, and in

constantly excessing the bridge. As I had no authority to impose any restrictions or regulations, I declined to grant the company my permission to cross the bridge.

Finally, I am of opinion that the following restrictions should be imposed upon the company in the exercise of their franchise, namely:

There should be two tracks, so laid that when a car is crossing the bridge there shall be at least eighteen inches of space between the right hand sine of the car and to adjacent tracs of the bridge.

The gauge and pattern of the rails should be of a width and form suitable for the passage of wagons generally used in this District. The rails when laid should have their upper surface flush with the floor of the bridge. The cost of repairing and renewing the randway of the bridge and causeway, also the painting of the iron-work of the superstructure, should be borne partly by the railroad company and partly by the Government. The proportionate amount to be borne by each should be determined by Congress. The railroad company propose to lay across the bridge rails of flat bar iron 2 inches wide and one half of an inch thick. They claim that this form of rail will present less obstruction to wagon wheels than any other. They are willing to lay it down, as an experiment, and to remove it and substitute a bread-tread rail if after trial it presents any serious obstruction to general travel. As they have purchased their iron and delivered it near the bridge probably it would be proper to let them lay it down, with the understanding that it shall be removed by them if so ordered.

I return Mr. Birney's letter herewith, and am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Colonel of Eagineers, U. S. A.

Brig, Gen. A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Eagineers.

Office Get the CHINF OF ENGINEERS, ?

received:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, 
WASHINGTEN, D. C., March 14, 1876.

SIR: Your letter of the 2d inst., reporting upon the communication of William Birney, esq., attorney for the Anacestia and Potomac River Railroad Company, claiming the right of that company to lay its rails across the Anacestia bridge, has been received. The letter of Mr. Birney, together with your report thereon, was submitted to the honorable Secretary of War, who has this day returned the same with the following indorsement, vis.:

day returned the same with the following indorse-ment, vis.:

"The company is hereby permitted to lay their tracks across the bridge under such restrictions and regulations as may be prescribed by the chief of engineers."

You are accordingly authorized to permit the railroad company referred to to cross the Anacos-tia bridge under the following restrictions and regulations, recommended in your letter of the 2d of March instant, which are approved by me, vis.: 1. There should be two tracks so laid that when a car is crossing the bridge there will be at least eighteen inches of space between the right-hand side of the car and the adjacent truss of the

bridge.

2. The gauge and pattern of the rails should be of a width and form , suitable for the passage of warden and supplies of the District of Columbia. wagons generally used in the District of Columbia.

3. The rails when laid should have their upper surfaces flush with the floor of the bridge.

4. The cost of regairing and renewing the floor of the bridge and of the causeway, also the painting of the iron work of the superstructure should be borne partly by the Government and partly by the railroad cumpany, the proportionate amount to be borne by each to be determined by Congress. In view of the fact, however, that the railroad company have already purchased rails of flat bar iron, two inches wide and one half an inch thick, and delivered them near the bridge, you are authorized to permit these rails to be laid across the bridge with the distinct understanding that if after trial they be found to obstruct travel, they rails described in the foregoing regulations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Brig. Gen. and Chief of Engineers.
Col. O. E. Babcock. Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.
On receipt of the above permission was given to
the railroad company, and they have recently
laid their flat bar rails across the bridge. EXECUTIVE MANSION.

Baid their flat bar rails across the bridge.

EXECUTIVE MANSION.

During the spring the roof was damaged by a severe wind and rain storm. The portion loosened was replaced and fastened with copper screws. It was secured in other places to prevent further damage. A portion of the plumbing was renewed, a larger water pipe was led into the washroom in the northeast room on the second floor. This pipe was encased in a lead tube to prevent damage to ceiling in the East room in case of a leak. During portions of the day a sufficient supply of Potomac water cannot be obtained on the second story of the building. To remedy this the Potomac water pipes were connected with the water tank in the attic. This tank is filled each night when the water will reach this altitude. The tank holds 2,184 gailons, thus securing a full supply for the day. An additional bathroom, water-closet and fixed washstand were put in the southwest room on the second floor. These were neatly encased. The waiting room for persons visiting the Executive was thoroughly repaired, the mantelpiece and grate replaced, walls and ceiling repapered, wood work regrained and the furniture renewed.

The wood-work on the inside of the house was painted, and the basement and area-wails cleaned and whitewashed. Other minor repairs and alterations were made as required, new furniture curtains, fire-screens, &c. were placed in the Red room; a set of bedroom furniture was also purchased, matting was placed on the floors of a number of the rooms in the private portion of the house. Other articles were purchased as required for the comfort and convenience of the President's family.

The number of persons visiting the public office and public rooms in the Executive Mansion daily averages several hundred, necessitating much care and labor to keep the rooms and passage-ways in proper order.

care and labor to keep the rooms and passage-ways in proper order.

The Executive Mansion was draped in mourn-ing, in accordance with the President's order, on the occasion of the death of ex-President Johnson and the Vice President, Henry Wilson. The carpets were removed, properly cleaned and pro-tected from moths during the summer months, and replaced in the fall; the woolen curtains the same. The lace curtains were repaired when needed, washed and replaced in the autumn.

The greenhouse connected with the Executive Mansion received all necessary repairs, was painted outside and in. The plants were properly cared for during the summer months, and escaped damage by frost during the winter. They are all in a fine, healthy condition.

BENNING'S, NATYARD AND CHAIN BRIDGES.

BENNING'S, NAVY-YARD AND CHAIN BRIDGES. Benning's bridge received extensive repairs during the year-new planking put down on one side, and new floor beams and stringers put in to take the place of old and decayed ones.

The Navy-yard and Chain bridges also were kept in good repair; the travel was not interrupted during the year.

WATER-FIFES, PLUOS, ETC.

The water-pipe supplying the Capitol with water from Smith's spring was repaired at various times during the year. A large leak on this line was discovered near New York avenue and North Capitol street in the newly filied portion of the street and repaired at once. It was impossible to discover the location of this leak for a number of days, during which the Capitol was without a supply of spring water. A portion of the line of this spring pipe running along Boundary street was lowered three feet, it being necessary to do so on account of the cutting down of the street by the District authorities.

The pipes running from a pool east of the Capitol and supplying a small fish pond and fountain west of it, being old, was replaced with new pipe preparatory to the paving of the street in which it was located in the improvement of the Capitol grounds.

Two fire plugs at the Executive mansion hav-WATER-PIPES, PLUGS, ETC.

preparatory to the paving of the street in which it was located in the improvement of the Capitol grounds.

Two fire plugs at the Executive mansion having become rusted and worn out, were removed and new onessubstituted. The water pipes that supply the Executive mansion and the pipes in the various reservations were promptly repaired and extended as necessary from time to time. The water pipes within the Smithsonian grounds were extended 2.018 feet and supplied with valves. They were also extended in the Monument grounds, 225 feet of four-inch, 935 feet of three-ined and 2,250 feet of two-ineh being laid, and angle valves were placed along the line of the same at intervals of two hundred feet.

Four cell-traps were attached to the pipes that supply the fountains in reservations on Iwenty-first street and Pennsylvania avenue, Franklin square and in front of the Executive Mansion. It is believed that these traps will prevent the amoyance experienced from the choking of the jets with fish-spawn and other impurities, necessitating their removal and cleaning out at very short intervals. The necessary brick vaults were made for these traps.

LIGHTING THE CAPITOL, EXECUTIVE MAN SION, ETC. The gas-fixtures and pipes in the Capitol, Executive Mansion and publis grounds have been repaired as required from time to time. A number of new chandeliers and fixtures have been placed in the Capitol and Executive Mansion. Seventeen fixtures were placed in the corridors of the House of Representatives. These were made to order, and of a pattern to harmonize with the fixtures in other portions of the Capitol building. FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Salaries. \$32,308
Contingent expenses. 2,000
Improvement and care of public grounds 107,550
Repairs, fuel, &c., Executive Mansion. 30,000
Care and repair of bridges. 2,000
Lighting, &c., the Capitol, Executive
Mansion, &c. 61,500

240,856

geal and efficiency in the execution of his duties continued until compelled to relinquish them from liness.

In prosecution of the various duties during the fiscal year, I am especially indebted to my assistant, Mr. George D. Benjamin, for sound judgment and increasing energy and care. I am likewise indebted to Mr. George Brown, the land-scape gardener: Mr. Balley, in charge of gas, plumbing, &c., and Mr. James Balloch, the cierk of the office.

WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT. At the date of the last annual report, contract had been entered into with the lowest bidders for building an office and dwelling at the receiving reservoir and for the continuation of the macadi-SERVIAN VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT

The joints of masoury were reponded with cement mortar. A freshet in Powder Mill branch destroyed a part of the embankment of the consecting con-duit at the waste channel of the receiving reser-voir. This embankment was repaired during the month.

reservoir, and a new floor was laid on Rock Creek bridge.

In December and January the macadam roads over the conduit and pipe line were repaired. Near College pond leaks were discovered in the 30-inch main and repaired.

In February the high winds which prevailed were the cause of the clear water in the distributing reservoir becoming turbid. Although the minimum depth of water was 9 feet, the action of the waves disturbed the clay bottom.

In March, all the large stops in the 30-inch main being in a leaky condition, were repaired. At Foundry branch vault the serve of the spindle on the 30-inch drain pipe was found to be broken. A new one was ordered to be made.

In April repairs were made to the conduit embankments, where they had been damaged by rain storms. At Great Falls and receiving reservoir the outbuildings and fences were white washed; at the distribution reservoir the submin. A conference of the representatives of the guaranteeing Powers was held there yesterday for

rain storms. At Great Falls and receiving reservoir the outbuildings and fences were whitewashed; at the distributing reservoir the embankments were repaired. Water was shut off from the 50-inch main from the reservoir to Foundry branch pipe vault, in order to place the new spindie in the 30-inch stop.

In May, at Great Falls, trees and plants were set out in the Government grounds; also, in the grounds at the distributing and receiving reservoirs. The roadway over the conduit was repaired and the fence around the distributing reservoir was whitewashed.

In the pipe vault the 30-inch stop on the stand pipe was repaired. At Rock creek bridge an asphalt pavenient was laid over the east abutment. The cobbiectone pavement at that point was left in almost an impassable condition by the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company when they removed their tracks from the bridge. The asphalt was laid, not for the improvement of the roadway only, but also for the protection of the

asphalt was laid, not for the improvement of the roadway only, but also for the protection of the abutment masonry.

In June the roadway between Cabin John bridge and the distributing reservoir was repaired, the distributing reservoirs were partly cleaned out, and the embankments that had been damaged by the recent rain storms were repaired. At Foundry branch the pipe vault was well cleaned, and the pipes and stop-cocks were painted. In Georgetown, at the high-service reservoir, the gallery was cleaned out and white-washed, and several leaks in the foreing main were repaired. Leaks were also repaired on the stand pipe in the engine-room at Rock creek.

Each month during the year the outlets in the Government mains have been regularly opened, and the general distribution of Potomac water in the conduits, reservoirs and Government mains has been properly attended to. GATE-HOUSE AT GREAT PALLS.

Snyder & Co., of Richmond, Va.

POTONAC DAM.

The cut-stone dam over the Maryland channel of the Potomac remains in good condition. The only damage it sustained during the year was the carrying away by the spring freshets of a portion of the rip-rap composing the brick filling. This portion of the dam was finished to its present height in December, 1867. Each year since them Congress has been asked for an appropriation to complete it entirely across the river to the Virginia shore.

During the past three years the present dam has not supplied the quantity of water consumed during the months of summer and autumn. The water has often been two feet below the crown of the dam, and the daily consumption of Potomac water has exceeded the minimum flow of the hiaryland channel, the deficiency at such times being supplied by the receiving and distributing reservoirs.

Last autumn the flow-lines of these reservoirs were gradually lowered until they had fallen to the level of 143 feet above tide, or 2 feet below the established flow lines, causing thereby a decrease of pressure in the mains.

As the consumption of Potomac water is yearly increasing, it is more than probable that before the Potomac dam is finished the want of it will be seriously felt.

The paving of the roadway over Griffith Park bridge and Cabin John bridge was finished last July. These pavements being water-tight, thor-oughly protect the masonry from surface drain-

College Pond bridge is in good condition.

Rock Creek bridge is also in good condition, except the wooden sidewalks.

The Washington and Georgetown Railway Company, in pursuance of an act of Congress approved March 3, 1875, removed their tracks from this bridge, and the travel over it has been restricted to light loads. As the entire supply of Potomac water to the city of Washington depends on the preservation of this bridge, I recommend that the present floor beams, roadway and sidewalk, which are now supported by its arches, be removed: that the stone parapet of the abutments be taken down to the level of the roadway, and that a wrought fron truss "through" bridge, with wrough iron floor beams and stringers to support the roadway and sidewalks, be erected over the present structure.

The advantages which would result from this improvement are as follows:

1. The two cast fron mains, each 4 feet in diameter, which form the arches of the presont structure would be relieved from the shocks caused by passing loads, and all danger of the mains leaking would be made thirty feet wide, and each footway could be made thirty feet wide. The present wide of the supposed improvement, and the estimated cost is \$70,000.

RESERVOIRS. IRON BRIDGES.

RESERVOIRS.

awarded, finished his contract in the following December.

By act of Congress March 5, 1875, the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, was as follows, namely:

For engineering, maintenance and repairs \$15,000 For iron truss roof for gate-house at Great Falls.

Great Falls.

During the year the work embraced in the first item of the appropriation has been done by days work. In July, at Great Falls, the back filling of the Potemac dam was repaired by replacing during low water the rip-raps that had been carried over the dam during the spring freshet. The joints of masoury were repointed with cement mortar.

voir. This embankment was repaired during the mouth.

Buring the same freshet the conduit overflowed at waste-weir No. 3, and destroyed a private road leading to Edes' mill. It was repaired in the following month.

In August the floor of the iron bridge over Rock creek was repaired, and the joints of the parapet masonry were repointed with ement moriar. A number of the ornamental scrolls which encircled the joints of the arched pipes had fallen off and dropped into the creek. Several were recovered, and with a number of new ones were reset in place and securely bolted to the tanges of the pipes. The entire bridge was then painted with two coats of lead paint. Galvanized iron spouts were purchased and set in place to drain the floor.

The iron bridge over College pond, was also

iron spouts were purchased and set in place to drain the floor.

The iron bridge over College pond was also theroughly painted with two coats of lead paint. In September, at Great Falls, the old wooden office was taken down and a driving shed and stable were built out of the material.

At Foundry branch the Government mains were uncovered by freshets. The stones that covered them were swept away. Quarried stone was purchased and the filling repaired. Over the pipes the bed of the stream was well paved.

In October the iron cornice of the gate-houses at the distributing reservoir were painted. At the receiving reservoir the telegraph instrument and battery were moved from the old office into the new brick building.

In November a new road was built from the Conduit road to the new office at the receiving reservoir, and a new floor was laid on Rock Creek bridge.

THE EASTERN QUESTION. STEPS TOWARDS MEDIATION

ENGLAND THE ORIGINATOR OF THE SCHEME

SCHUYLKILL RACES YESTERDAY

GROWL FROM THE LONDON CLUB

WEEDEN, THE PUGILIST, LOCKED UP

FOREIGN NEWS.

British Views of the Bulgarian Massacres-LONDON, Sept. 1.-Mr. Bourke, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has written a letter to a member of Parliament respecting the Bulgarian atrocities, of which the following is the concluding paragraph: "You may be quite sure the Prime Minister and Lord Derby feel as indignant at these events as any other two men in the coun-try, and mean to act in accordance with those try, and mean to act in accordance with those feelings; but, heartrending as the Bulgarian massacres have been, we must all recollect that English statesmen are not rulers of Türkey, and cannot use physical force in the internal provinces of the empire upon a few days' notice of the danger. The first duty of English statesmen is regard for the interests of this country, but Turkey knows as well as you do that the Government of England will never support tyrnnny, oppression or cruelty, wherever it may be found, and that as the Queen of England treats her Mohammedan subjects with justice and mercy we have the right to demand from the head of the Mohammedan fath similar treatment for the various Christian races who live in the teritories

Governor Seymour Persists in Declining the Nomination. Utica, N. Y., Sept. 1, 9 p. m .- Senator Kernan pent the day with ex-Governor Seymour, and it s believed to night that all further effort to inluce Governor Seymour to reconsider his refusal o accept the nomination will be abandoned. New York, Sept. 1 .- General Faulkner, chair man of the committee appointed by the Saratoga convention to inform ex-Governor Seymour of his comination, this evening sent to Governor Sey. aith of Governor Tilden's friends in the matter

faith of Governor Tilden's friends in the matter of Governor Seymour's nomination:

"New York, Sept. 1, 1876.

"Hen. Horatio Seymour, Utica, N. Y."

"The State convention, including myself, acted towards you in the utmest good latth. The torm of telegram received by me from Mr. Spriggs was agreed upon in committee of ten, to signify, as its language indicates, your acceptance. I remained in Saratoga to more speedily convey your decision to the convention.

L. B. FAULKERE."

The following is the form of dispatch referred to above received by General Faulkner from Mr. Spriggs: "Go on and complete the ticket."

The Ministry Unchanged-VIENNA, Sept. 1,—The Political Correspondence says a dispatch from Constantinople announces that all the Turkish Ministers will remain is

TURKEY.

the purpose of discussing the question of media-tion. All the representatives had received in-structions from their respective Governments. By Saturday or Monday they will take official tiens to bring about an armistics. SUBSTANTIAL EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY. A dispatch to the same journal from St. Peters-burg reports that the subscription to the new Servian loan opened on August 31, and the loan is eagerly taken by the people.

is eagerly taken by the people.

SERVIAN VIEW OF MEDIATION.

BELGRADY, Sept. 1.—Prime Minister Resties, in an interview te-day, stated that Servia had not received any intimation, from Turkey regarding the desire expressed by her to enter into negotiations for peace. It was at the desire of England that Prince Milan declared he was willing to enter upon such negotiations.

"At present," said the Minister, "the state of affairs is changed. Servia will not be able to accept rigorous conditions, such as the Porte is inclined to impose. The change of sovereign might retard the negotiations and alter the conditions of peace and the situation of the belligerents."

The International Regatta. PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 1 .- The last of the inter national amateur boat races were concluded to day. In the intercollegiate race between the first Trinity College crew of Cambridge and those of Columbia and Yale the Cambridge boat was placed hors du combet through the sickness of Mr. Wm. B. Close, the captain. The first double scull trial heat was rowed at 3 o'clock between Onelda, (Walker and Rogers,) Vespers, (Mungen and McMillan,) Atalanta, (Rogers and Ackerman,) and Northwestern, (Corning and Montgomery.) At the start Oneida struck water first, and soon led by a length, Vesper second; Atalanta third and Northwestern last. The Atalanta third and Northwestern last. The Vespers spurted ahead, and led Ousidas by two lengths, but within fifty yards the Atalantas in turn led the Vespers by five or six lengths, pulling splendidly. Northwestern pulled by the Vesper and led them by a full length. When off Peter's Island the Vespers struggled hard to come to terms, and passed Oueids in the race past the island. The boats maintained the same position until the finish, and Atalanta won in 10 minutes 29% seconds. The Vesper followed in 10:32 and Northwestern in 10:56 leaving the Oneidas last.

The second double sculls trial heat was started about quarter to 4 o'clock, between the Crescent (Young and Tasker), Union Springs (Courfley and Yates) and Vesper [Henderson and Corson). The London Rowing Club had withdrawn, as was anticipated. Crescent led at the start, with Union Springs steered a good course all the way and passed the line in 10:17, followed by the Crescent about three lengths behind, and Vesper a long distance.

Springs steered a good course all the way and passed the line in 10:17, followed by the Crescent about three lengths behind, and Vesper a long distance.

The final heat for pair oars was down for 4:30 o'elock, but a quarter of an hour before time the boats were in position. The Northwestern (Killorn and Smith) occupied the western or favorite position, and Atalanta (Eustis and Downs) the eastern. Atalanta got way on their boat first, and steered an excellent course from the stake boat. When turning the bend they were one fourth of a length ahead, and soon increased it to a full length. The Northwestern dashed past the winning poet in 10:02, the Atalanta coming in fourteen seconds later.

The Northwestern crew won the prize given by Messrs. Wright and Crawford, of New York. The next race promised to be the most interesting one of the afternoon, but owing to the illness of Mir. Close, captain of the Cambridge crew, the competition was confined to the other two boats. At the signal Yale started off first, Columbia second and Cambridge last. At the bend of the river Yale and Columbia were on even terms, but Cambridge pulled hard and overlapped Columbia. Yale was only about a quarter of a length ahead, but as the bridge was sighted Yale gained a length and steered over towards the eastern shore, compelling the other two boats tocross over also, to avoid their backwash. Cambridge now unfortunately steered past the flag bnoys and got into the weeds on that side and lost a deal of ground. Columbia, the second boat, did so, too, but pulled right through the weeds to the castern shore. In passing the second boat, did so, too, but pulled right through the weeds to the castern shore. In passing the second boat, did so, too, but pulled right through the weeds to the castern shore. In passing the second boat, did so, too, but pulled right through the weeds to the castern shore. In passed the winning post in \$2.00, for the Union Springs on the prize contributed by Mr. Ohidds. At 6 o'clock p. m. the final heat of the double sc

PHILADRIPHIA, Sept. 1.—The following correspondence has passed between the London Rowing Club and the regatta committee:

PHILADRIPHIA, Aug. 31.—Gravilence: As I do not consider that my crow received that treatment either in the four-cared race of yesterday or at the hands of your umpire to which they were entitled by the laws of boat-racing, I beg on their behalf to decline further competition at your regatta. I have the honor, &c.,

Captain London Rowing Club.

To this the committee replied that they had nothing to regret in their treatment of the London crew; that they had the fullest confidence in the impartiality, fairness and honorable conduct of the umpire, and also that they were satisfied that all his decisions were in accordance with the laws of boat-racing. LONDON CLUB GROWLING.

HARTFORD, Sept. 1.—This was the last day of the Chester park meeting. The 2:25 tace was won by Hannah D., Ella Madden second and Maso-marne third. Time, 2:23%, 2:25%, 2:23%, 2:35%, 2:24%. Maxomarne took the third heat and Ella Madden the fourth.

## WHITE LEAGUE ATROCITIES.

The Recent Assassination of Dink Graves at Monroe, La. (Special to the National Republican.)

NEW ORLMANS, Sept. 1.—Detailed accounts of the assassination of Dink Graves, at Monroe, say it was preceded by a foreible breaking up of a Republican barbeque and the false cry of negro rising which generally precedes negro massacres. The New Orleans Democrat, a few days before the murder, editorially advised the people of the parish to held the deluded negroes guiltless; as far as possible, to act with coolness and judgment, and go for the white rascals who are at the bottom of all this trouble. Large shows the second of all this trouble. and go for the white rascals who are at the bottom of all this trouble. Large shipments of arms had been sent from New Orleans to Dr. Aby, president of the Monroe Democratic committee, for arming of the rife clubs, the last name assumed by the White League organization in the parishes. Dink Graves ascertained the act and warned the Republican State Central committee. He was a leading white Republican of the parish, a nephew of the Chief Justice of the State, and a native Louisianian of high character. He had thrown himself energetically into the campaign, canvassing strong Democratic wards, which no Republican had before ventured to do, and boastef vassing atrong Democratic wards, which no Re-publican had before ventured to do, and boasted that the Republicans would carry the parish by 2,600 majority. His death disorganizes the pariy in the parish. The negroes for miles around sleep

out of houses at night, for fear of violence. Prominent old citizens telegraph to the State Authorities for assistance.

[Regular Press Dispatch ]

Monnor, La., Sept. L.—Great excitement sprung up last night in consequence of reports that the negroes were arming in the northern portion of the parish, and were coming to burn the town. About seventy five hegroes, mounted and on foot, were tound at Captain Hilloy's place, where a parley ensued. The negroes refused to disarm, and said they would come back with five hundred men. Captain Thoobaid, with fifteen men, blockaded the road with rails. The news spread rapidly, and the whites armed from this and Morehouse parishers went to the scene of trouble. The excitement was intense, but no disturbance of any kind occurred.

The whites included some of the best men of this section, and they acted with great forbearance. One of the armed negroes said they were told to arm by the sheriff of the parish, who is a negro, and come to Monroe and burn the town. In the Southern portion of the parish, who is a negro, and come to Monroe and burn the town. In the Southern portion of the parish, who is a negro, and edine to Monroe and burn the town. In the Southern portion, of the parish, who is a negro, and come to Monroe and burn the town. In the Southern portion, of the parish, who is a negro, and edine to Monroe and surn the town. In the Southern portion, of the parish, who is a negro, sand edine to deddedly critical, but leading clitices are proceeding with prudence and moderation. authorities for assistance

St. Louis, Aug. 1.—The following has just been received from a correspondent of the Globe-Democrat, at Kensett, Ark: At Gam Spring, one and a half miles south of Searcy, a lot of re-ligious fanatics, known as Cobbites, have been acting very strangely. C. D. Humphreys, of acting very strangely. C. D. Humphreys, of Searcy, and Mr. Blake, of Elpaso, went out to investigate. The former was seized, cut to pieces and decapitated. His head was impaled on a fence picket. Blake escaped, and brought the horrible news to Searcy. A posse started out and found the fanatics gestionlating frantically around Humphreys' head. They started to at-tack the posse.

around Humphreys' head. They started to at-tack the posse.

Black, the leader, ordered his men to fire, and two Cobblics were killed. Four men, four women and three children were arrested, taken to Searcy and subsequently released, as they were orazy from the combined effects of religion and starva-tion. Their leader is a man name Cobb, who they think is Christ, His doctrine is adultery, claiming that by that means only can the souls of women to saved. One Dover acted the principal part in the monstrous murder of Humphrey.

TALLAHASSE, FLA., Sept. 1.-Gov. Stearns, of this State, has issued his proclamation to the effect that information has been received that yellow fever in malignant and epidemic form ex-lets in Savannah, and it is necessary to take prompt and effective measures to provent its in-troduction into Florida. He therefore forbids the landing of boats or vessels from Savannah, or of any passengers or goods from that city, until such heats, passengers or goods shall have been quar-satined under regulations provided by the Board of Health or municipal authorities of towns and cities in the State. He also enjoins upon the mu-

The Postal Railway Committee.

Philadeliphia, Sept. 1.—The special committee appointed by authority of Congress to examine and report upon the subject of postal railway transportation held a session in this city yesterday. Thomas A. Scott, representing the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and its branches, appeared before the committee and made a full statement of his views touching the relations of railroad companies to the Federal Government in postal railway service, and was catechised at much length by the commission on the subject of present rates of compensation and proposed changes of rates. Messrs, Gowen, of the Reading railroad, and Hinekley, of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad, have been invited to appear before the commission and give their views to-morrow.

Death of a Prominent Virginian. RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 1.—Gen. Wm. H. Richardson, adjutant general of Virginia, died to-day at 12:30 p. m., aged eighty-one years. He was a

RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 1.-Hillary Page, colored, known here as the Chesterfield fire-field, was hung in Chesterfield county to-day. The work

was bunglingly done and the culprit died of strangulation. Fifteen hundred persons (white and black, male and female) were present to witness Baltimore, Sept. 1.—During a street political discussion to-night between James Toner and Timothy Driscoll, two Fifth ward politicians,

which resulted in a fight, Driscoil was shot by Toner in the abdomen, and will probably die be-fore morning. Toner delivered himself to the authorities. Weeden Arrested. New York, Sept. 1.—Weeden, who caused the death of his opponent, Walker, in a prize-fight at Penn's Grove, N. J., on Thursday last, and his

The Public Debt Statement. The recapitulation of the statement of the publie debt of the United States for the month of August, 1878, just issued, is as follows:

Total principal.....\$1,697,320,160 00 Debt bearing interest in lawful money.

Navy pension fund at 3 per cent... \$14,000,000 00 Debt bearing no interest.

Total principal .... 8462,606,447 95 rincipal Total Debt. Cash in the Treasury. Coin.
Currency.
Special deposit held for redemption
of certificates of deposit as provided by law. 

Bonds issued to the Pacific 'allway companies, interest payable in lawful money—Principal outstanding, \$64,623,512; interest accrued and not yet paid, \$64,623,512; interest paid by the United States, \$22,080,218.42; interest repaid by transportation of mails, &c., \$6,924,592.83; balance of interest paid by the United States, \$2,155,666.05.

The New State Department Building.

The report of Gen. Babcock, engineer in charge of the construction of the east wing of the building for the new State, War and Navy Departments, for the fiscal year ending June 39, 1878, shows that the granite cutting, setting and brick work have been nearly completed in the third story. During the year \$50,300,00 was expended for brick work, of which \$47,310,70 was paid for material and \$22,999,90 for labor; \$10,542,68 was expended for stone masoury, of which \$2,227,05 was paid for material and \$17,215,03 for labor. Other expenditures were \$40,290,00 for granite to be set, \$803,311,29 for granite cutting, \$10,050,19 for ironwork, \$3,177,00 for miscellaneous work, \$13,173,40 for machinery and \$20,561,32 for contingencies. The amount appropriated for the fiscal year was \$700,000, and \$127,155,93 of this sum was transferred to the south wing, now occupied by the State Department. It is astimated that \$1,038,194,07, including the appropriation of \$300,900 for the present fiscal year, will be required to complete the east wing of the building, and \$21,194,65 to finish the approaches thereto. An estimate of \$453,000,195 is also submitted to commence work on the north wing next year.